



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/715,036	11/20/2000	Hortense W. Dodo	077281-0104	6841
22428	7590	08/05/2004		EXAMINER
FOLEY AND LARDNER				GIBBS, TERRA C
SUITE 500				
3000 K STREET NW			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20007			1635	

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Miscellaneous Office Letter (No Response Period Set)

This Office Action is supplemental to the Notice of Allowance mailed June 2, 2004.

In a telephone conversation with Rachel Pillof, on or around July 12, 2004, the Examiner was informed that a Miscellaneous Office Letter (No Response Period Set) was mailed to Applicant on July 2, 2004, with regard to USSN 09/715,026. This miscellaneous office letter contained a typographical error as it referenced USSN 09/715,026, instead of USSN 09/715,036. This letter was issued in error, as USSN 09/715,026 is an abandoned case. Instead, the miscellaneous office letter should have made reference to the instant application, USSN 09/715,036.

The current miscellaneous office letter is substantially a duplicate of the miscellaneous office letter issued in error on July 2, 2004.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Information Disclosure Statement mailed on June 4, 2003 is acknowledged. The Information Disclosure Statement mailed on June 4, 2003 contained 8 pages. The Examiner inadvertently did not sign off on page 4 of the references contained therein. The Examiner has attached a signed copy of page 4 of 8 of the Information Disclosure Statement mailed on June 4, 2003. The Examiner has considered the references referred to therein on the record.

Oath/Declaration

In the previous Notice of Allowance mailed June 2, 2004, the Examiner indicated that he oath or declaration was defective because the first and second inventors have not signed the

Oath. This is withdrawn in view of the Oath mailed May 18, 2001, in which the first and second inventors have signed the Oath.

Priority

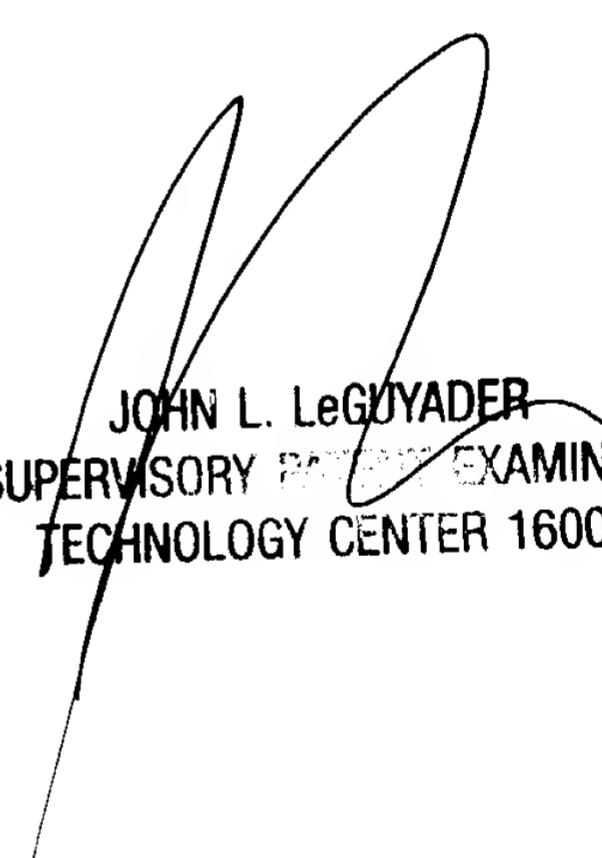
In the Office Action mailed on June 4, 2003, the Examiner indicated a claim was made for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121. The indication was incorrect as the instant application has claimed domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) (to a provisional application). It is acknowledged that the instant application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Number 60/167,255, filed November 19, 1999.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Terra C. Gibbs whose telephone number is (571) 272-0758. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John L. LeGuyader can be reached on (571) 272-0760. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

tcg
July 26, 2004



JOHN L. LeGUYADER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600